 encourages the transition of rail transportation in general to zero emission
locomotives.
Special Clauses:
None
Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein:
WHEREAS, Utah continuously demonstrates the state's commitment to and interest in
the state's air quality;
WHEREAS, good air quality is a vital component of the economy and human health in
Utah and research conducted by Utah universities shows the harmful impacts of air pollution
on human health, with the greatest negative impact on the health of children, the elderly, and
those with compromised immune systems;
WHEREAS, for example, exposure to direct small particulate matter exacerbates
asthma, increases the risk of cancer, and leads to acute respiratory symptoms, bronchitis,
chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, heart attacks, nervous system effects, lost work days,
and premature death;
WHEREAS, there is now a broad range of technologically and economically viable
solutions to significantly reduce air pollution and ensure that future economic and population
growth does not compromise air quality;
WHEREAS, embracing zero emission technologies will help grow our state's robust
clean technology sector;
WHEREAS, as of 2017, railroad transportation contributed 9.2% of NOx and 1.4% of
the PM2.5 along the Wasatch Front;
WHEREAS, Ŝ→ [while comparable data is not available for the trucking sector or all freight
railroad operations in the state,] ←Ŝ as of 2017 the Division of Air Quality found that locomotives
used for short line, industrial plant, and switch engine operations contributed 3.4% of NOx and
0.16% of PM2.5 of the total Wasatch Front inventory of emissions, equivalent to
approximately 1,828 tons of NOx and 19 tons of PM2.5;
WHEREAS, in addition to significant numbers of heavy haul freight locomotives
operating in and through the state, as of 2017 there were approximately 63 short line
locomotives, industrial plant locomotives, or switch engines operating in Utah;